



Tennessee Core to College Initiative

The Core to College Initiative is an initiative funded by several philanthropic groups:

- Lumina Foundation
- Gates Foundation
- Hewlett Foundation

The initiative aims to foster long-term collaborations between state higher education and K-12 entities that will improve student achievement and college readiness and ultimately, increase rates of college enrollment and graduation.

Initially, the Core to College cohort included Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oregon and Washington. THEC was contacted in November and asked to join this cohort of states as a Core to College partner. A proposal was assembled and approved by Core to College in early January, 2013. The grant will be a \$400,000, two year project, concluding in December 2014.

The THEC Core to College initiative consists of two projects:

- Convening Core to College Institutes for both K-12 and higher education faculty and leaders, dually focused on expanding Common Core knowledge and ensuring the state post-secondary community fully accepts the PARCC assessment as the placement instrument for first-time freshman in credit-bearing courses
- Development of a model curriculum for first-year college courses in Mathematics and English/Language Arts fully aligned with the Common Core State Standards.

This initiative will be conducted in full partnership with the Board of Regents, University of Tennessee, and the Tennessee Department of Education.